A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H04L9/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## **B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 - H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

Category °	Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Х	EP 0 518 315 A (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP) 16 December 1992 (1992-12-16) abstract column 7, line 4 - column 9, line 32; figures 1,2	1,4,9, 11,16
A	EP 1 191 737 A (AMPHION SEMICONDUCTOR LTD) 27 March 2002 (2002-03-27) abstract paragraph '0021! - paragraph '0031!; figure 3	1,4, 9-11,16
A	US 2002/131588 A1 (YANG YOON SEOK) 19 September 2002 (2002-09-19) abstract paragraph '0032! - paragraph '0058!; figures 2,6	1,11

<ul> <li>Special categories of cited documents:</li> <li>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular retevance</li> <li>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filling date</li> <li>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</li> <li>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</li> <li>"P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</li> <li>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</li> <li>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</li> <li>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</li> </ul>
Date of the actual completion of the international search  2 September 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report  17/09/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA  European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk  Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016	Authorized officer  Dujardin, C

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A	SUTHERLAND I E: "MICROPIPELINES" COMMUNICATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTING MACHINERY, ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTING MACHINERY. NEW YORK, US, vol. 32, no. 6, 1 June 1989 (1989-06-01), pages 720-738, XP000256681 ISSN: 0001-0782 page 1, left-hand column, line 1 - right-hand column, line 4 page 4, left-hand column, line 4 - page 5, left-hand column, line 10; figure 3	2,6,12
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